

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following remarks, is respectfully requested. Claims 1-2, 4, 13, 15-18, 20-23, 25, 29, 31-34, 36 and 40 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 15-18, 20-21, 23, 25, 31-32, 34 and 36 are amended, and claims 3, 7-8, 10, 14, 26-28 and 37-39 are cancelled. By this Amendment, no claims are added. Claims 1, 15, 16, 17, and 18 are the independent claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10, 13-18, 20-23, 25-29, 31-34 and 36-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ando et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0046371, hereinafter “Ando”) in view of Murase et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,907,658, hereinafter “Murase”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons detailed below.

Applicants submit that Ando does not disclose “the playitem indicating in-point and out-point of the first stream file for reproducing the still images, the sub-playitem indicating in-point and out-point of the second stream file for reproducing the audio data” as required by claim 1.

Referring to FIGS. 28B and FIG. 42 of Ando, Ando discloses reproducing an audio track and still picture data which is dependent upon the audio track being reproduced. In FIG. 42 of Ando, the AOBUs corresponds to audio data, which is reproduced by a reproduction process. In FIG. 28B of Ando, the ASVOB corresponds to still picture data. In paragraph [00469] of Ando, the ASVOBs are presented while one or more cells are played back. Therefore, the ASVOB is not related to the cell, track for PGC.

In other words, Ando uses the PGC and the CELL for reproducing audio data. The reproduction of the still picture data is dependent upon the audio data being presented. However,

Ando does not disclose a PGC and CELL for reproducing still picture data only. That is, Ando includes only management information for the presentation of the audio data, not the picture data. Therefore, Ando discloses a structure wherein the presentation of the still picture data is dependent upon the presentation of the audio. That is, Ando's still picture data cannot be managed independently of the Ando's audio data.

In direct contrast, claim 1 requires that the **playitem** indicates an in-point and out-point of the first stream file for reproducing the **still images** and the **sub-playitem** indicates in-point and out-point of the second stream file for reproducing the **audio data**. Therefore, Ando cannot possibly disclose "the playitem indicating in-point and out-point of the first stream file for reproducing the still images, the sub-playitem indicating in-point and out-point of the second stream file for reproducing the audio data" of claim 1 because Ando discloses reproducing an audio track and still picture data which is dependent upon the audio track being reproduced. For reasons that are apparent, Murase fails to cure the deficiencies of Ando.

In addition, neither Ando nor Murase disclose "the sub-playitem...including link information, the link information indicating at least one playitem associated with the sub-playitem such that the still image and the audio data are played together."

As a result, Ando and Murase, alone or in combination cannot render claim 1 obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Independent claims 15, 16, 17, and 18 have been amended to include features similar to claim 1, and are patentable for at least the same reasons stated above. The pending claims, dependent on claims 1, 15, 16, 17, and 18, are patentable for the same reasons stated above. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request this rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of claims Gary D. Yacura in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

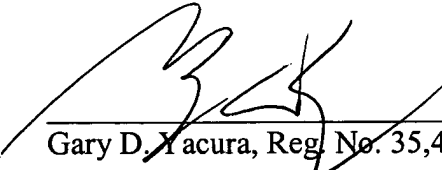
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



Gary D. Yacura, Reg. No. 35,416

P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000

GDY/JBS:gew

